

DOCKET NO.: CEPH-1447
Application No.: 09/473,619
Office Action Dated: July 14, 2006

PATENT
REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO
37 CFR § 1.116

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 9-11, and 13-47 are pending in the application. Claims 1 and 47 were examined. Claim 1 is allowed, and claim 47 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and (e). Applicants appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter. Claims 2-7, 9-11, and 13-46 are cancelled herein, without prejudice. Claim 47 is amended herein without the addition of new matter.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the time and courtesies extended by the Examiner toward Applicants' representative during a telephone interview conducted with Applicants' representative on September 6, 2006 and on September 25, 2006. In particular, the outstanding rejection and ways to move prosecution in this matter forward were discussed.

Claim 47 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by the Anderson and Dechert references, and under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,288,037. Applicants traverse the rejections because all of the limitations of the claimed invention are not taught or suggested by any reference. More specifically, the references do not teach C-terminal SEQ ID NO:1 (*i.e.*, the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 at the C-terminus of the peptide), but rather describe a protein containing the five amino acids of SEQ ID NO:1 in a non-terminal portion of the protein. Solely for purposes of advancing prosecution, Applicants have amended claim 47. The purpose of this amendment is merely to clarify the claim language. Applicants earnestly submit that the amendment does not limit the scope of the claim.

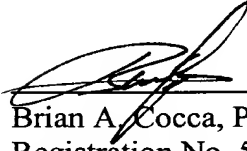
In view of the foregoing remarks, applicants respectfully assert that all claims presently pending are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly requested.

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Respectfully Submitted,

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